
Bozeman Ranger District News Release



For Immediate Release

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Forest Service and City Propose Fuel Reduction Project in Bozeman Municipal Watershed

The Forest Service, in partnership with the City of Bozeman, is proposing to begin a series of fuels reduction activities within the Bozeman Municipal Watershed. The purpose of this project is to help maintain the long-term domestic water supply to Bozeman area residents through cooperative efforts with the City of Bozeman.

The Bozeman Creek and Hyalite Creek drainages have been identified as having a high risk of severe wildfire. In addition, the City water treatment plant has a very limited ability to filter out increased sediment and ash that can result from a wildfire. Forest Service and City officials believe the risk of disruption to the delivery of water to city residents following a severe wildfire is high.

According to Jose' Castro, Bozeman District Ranger, "The Forest Service and the City think it is responsible management to begin some preventative fuels reduction actions now."

The Forest Service and City are asking the Bozeman water users, and the users of National Forest lands in these popular drainages, to help with ideas and suggestions to approach this project in a responsive manner. Public comments on the proposal will help determine the breadth and scope of the analysis to be conducted by the Forest Service and City.

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3710 Fallon Street, Suite C, Bozeman, MT 59718
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r1/gallatin>

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A “scoping document” describing the proposal is now available from the Bozeman Ranger District at 3710 Fallon Street, Suite C, Bozeman, MT 59718, or phone 406 -522-2520. The document can also be obtained on the Forest Service Website at www.fs.fed.us/r1/gallatin/?page=projects.

“The Forest Service welcomes everyone’s involvement from the very start of this important undertaking. We encourage homeowners and homeowner associations within the Hyalite, Bozeman Creek and Leverich Canyon area to contact us for further information”, said Castro.

Comments must be submitted by November 11, 2005 to:

Gallatin National Forest
Attn: Jim Devitt
Bozeman Watershed Project
P.O. Box 130
Bozeman, MT 59771

Electronic comments can be sent to: comments-northern-gallatin@fs.fed.us

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